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Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. In paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 48/169, the Secretary-General was requested to convene another meeting of governmental experts from developing land-locked and transit developing countries along with representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions to review the progress in the development of transit-transport systems and to recommend further action and to report to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session. The meeting was held under the auspices of UNCTAD from 19 to 22 June 1995 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The meeting adopted a Global Framework for Transit-Transport Cooperation between Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community which appears in annex I to the Report of the Meeting (TD/B/42(1)/11 - TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7) which is before the Board for its consideration.

2. The Board may wish to endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in the above Global Framework, which outlines actions that should be taken by the land-locked and transit developing countries at both the national and subregional levels to further improve the transit-transort systems. This Global Framework also elaborates the role of external assistance in this regard. The Board may also wish to support the request made in the Framework to the UNCTAD secretariat and the regional economic commissions regarding their role in promoting the implementation and follow up of the recommendations outlined in the Framework.

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3. Pursuant to paragraph 12 of the same resolution, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD was invited to organize, in collaboration with the Administrator of the UNDP and the Executive Heads of the regional economic commissions, a Symposium for Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries, to address regional-specific problems in improving the efficiency of transit-transport operations. The Symposium was held from 14 to 16 June 1995 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The outcome of the Symposium, which constituted proposals for the development of a Global Framework for Transit-Transport Cooperation, was submitted to the above-mentioned intergovernmental meeting. As part of the preparations for the Symposium, the UNCTAD secretariat requested information from land-locked and transit developing countries and relevant intergovernmental and subregional organizations regarding the particular problems they face in promoting efficient transit-transport systems. The replies received are summarized in a report which is also before the Board for consideration (TD/B/42(1)/14).